

AMENDMENT TO THE CLAIMS

1. (Currently amended) A method of providing a data message to a passive device comprising:

(a) identifying a location of said passive device by finding a system-local service provider that has control over communications of an active device that is associated with said passive device; and

(b) transmitting said data message to said system-local service provider for transmission to said passive device.

2. (Original) The method of claim 1, further comprising (c) identifying said active device with which said passive device is associated, and wherein said identity of said active device is used by step (a).

3. (Currently amended) The method of claim 2, wherein step (a) accesses a database that contains said identity of said active device and a list of passive devices of said subscriber that are associated with said active device.

4. (Currently amended) The method of claim 2, further comprising (d) identifying said passive device that is to receive said data message, and wherein said identity of said passive device is used by step (c).

5. (Previously amended) The method of claim 1, wherein said passive device is selected from the group consisting of: a watch, a pen, a telephone, a frame, a wallet, and a beeper.

6. (Currently amended) The method of claim 1, wherein said active device is a cellular telephone, and wherein said local service provider is a local cellular service provider in a cellular communication system.

7. (Currently amended) A computer comprising:

a processor, a memory and a communication interface;

first means for identifying a location of a ~~system~~ passive device by finding a local service provider that has control over communications of an active device that is associated with a said passive device; and

second means for transmitting ~~said a data~~ message to said ~~system~~ local service provider for transmission to said passive device.

8. (Original) The computer of claim 7, further comprising third means for identifying said active device with which said passive device is associated, and wherein said identity of said active device is used by said first means.

9. (Currently amended) The computer of claim 8, wherein said first means accesses a database that contains said identity of said active device and a list of passive devices of said subscriber that are associated with said active device.

10. (Currently amended) The computer of claim 8, further comprising fourth means for identifying said passive device that is to receive said data message, and wherein said identity of said passive device is used by said third means.

11. (Previously amended) The computer of claim 7, wherein said passive device is selected from the group consisting of: a watch, a pen, a telephone, a frame, a wallet, and a beeper.

12. (Currently amended) The computer of claim 7, wherein said active device is a cellular telephone, and wherein said local service provider is a local cellular service provider in a cellular communication system.

13. (Original) A passive device comprising a personal article that has a display, a receiver capable of receiving data via a wireless transmission, a transmitter capable of transmitting an identity message only a short distance to an active device, and a controller for processing said data for display on said display and said transmission of said identity message by said transmitter.

14. (Previously amended) The passive device of claim 13, wherein said short distance is in a range of about zero foot to about 100 feet.

15. (Previously amended) The passive device of claim 13, wherein said personal article is selected from the group consisting of: a watch, a pen, a telephone, a frame, a wallet, and a beeper.

16. (Currently amended) A memory medium for a computer that controls the presentation of a data message to a passive device, said memory medium comprising:

first means for controlling said computer to identify a location of a system said passive device by finding a local service provider that has control over communications of an active device that is associated with said passive device;
and

second means for controlling said computer to present said data message to said ~~system~~ local service provider for transmission to said passive device.

17. (Previously amended) The memory medium of claim 16, further comprising third means for controlling said computer to identify said active device

with which said passive device is associated, and wherein said identity of said active device is used by said third means.

18. (Currently amended) The memory medium of claim 17, further comprising fourth means for controlling said computer to identify said passive device that is to receive said data message, and wherein said identity of said passive device is used by said third means.

19. (Previously amended) The memory medium of claim 16, wherein said passive device is selected from the group consisting of: a watch, a pen, a telephone, a frame, a wallet, and a beeper.

20. (Currently amended) The memory medium of claim 16, wherein said active device is a cellular telephone, and wherein said local service provider is a local cellular service provider in a cellular communication system.

21. (New) A passive device that is capable of receiving data messages from a local service provider, said passive device comprising:

a low power transmitter that has a transmission range, which includes a nearby active device, but not said local service provider, and that transmits to said active device at least one signal that identifies said passive device and its location of close proximity to said active device for relay to a global registry; and

a receiver that is capable of receiving said data messages from said local service provider after the identity and the location of said passive device has been entered in said global registry.

22. (New) The passive device of claim 21, wherein said signal is transmitted via wireless transmission, and wherein said data messages are received via wireless transmission.

23. (New) The passive device of claim 21, further comprising a display and a processor that processes said data messages for presentation on said display.

24. (New) The passive device of claim 21, wherein said active device is a cellular telephone, and wherein said local service provider is a local cellular service provider in a cellular communication system.

25. (New) The passive device of claim 21, wherein said passive device is selected from the group consisting of: a watch, a pen, a telephone, a frame, and a beeper.

26. (New) A method for a passive device that is capable of receiving data messages from a local service provider, said method comprising:

transmitting from said passive device to a nearby active device at least one signal that identifies said passive device and its location of close proximity to said active device for relay to a global registry; and

receiving said data messages from said local service provider after the identity and the location of said passive device has been entered in said global registry.

27. (New) The method of claim 26, wherein said signal is transmitted via wireless transmission, and wherein said data messages are received via wireless transmission.

28. (New) The method of claim 26, wherein said wherein said active device is a cellular telephone, and wherein said local service provider is a local cellular service provider in a cellular communication system.

29. (New) The method of claim 1, further comprising repeating steps (a) and (b) for an additional data message, wherein the local service provider identified by the repeated step (a) is a local service provider that currently has control over the communications of said active device, whereby the passive device is movable from said location to a new location and still able to receive said additional data message.
